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COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE SUPERIOR COURT, PONCE PART

MANUEL JUSINO PALERMO and NAHIR GIRON MOREL PLAINTIFF **CIVIL NO.:**

COURTROOM:

V.

RE: DAMAGES COLLECTION OF MONIES

DUPONT AGRICULTURAL
CARIBE INDUSTRIES LIMITED
on its own behalf and through its Resident
Agent C.T. CORPORATION,
also known as DUPONT
CONNECTION and DUPONT
AGRICHEMICAL; AON HEWITT LLC;
TRIPLE S SALUD, INC.;
CORPORATION XYZ and
INSURANCE COMPANY ABC

DEFENDANTS

COMPLAINT

TO THE HONORABLE COURT:

Come now plaintiffs, Mr. Manuel Jusino Palermo and Mrs. Nahir Girón Morel, through the undersigned legal counsel, and very respectfully **STATE**, **ALLEGE AND PRAY**:

1. That their address is as follows:

Residential

Urb. El Monte 3627 Cumbre Street Ponce, PR 00716

Mailing:

PO Box 7683 Ponce, PR 00732

- 2. That the defendant is a for-profit corporation duly registered and authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
 - a. DuPONT Agricultural Caribe Industries, Inc.

For-profit, foreign corporation duly registered with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Department of State under number 10344, with resident agent C.T. Corporation, whose mailing and physical address is 361 San Francisco Street, Old San Juan, San Juan, PR 00901.

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This corporation conducts business under the names: Dupont Connection and Dupont Agrichemical.

b. AON Hewitt, LLC.

Foreign corporation conducting business in Puerto Rico, with offices in Hato Rey Tower, 268 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, San Juan, PR 00918-1932 and telephone number (787) 767-5525.

c. TRIPLE S – SALUD, Inc.

For-profit, domestic corporation duly registered with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Department of State under number 428, whose mailing and physical address is 1441 F.D. Roosevelt Avenue, San Juan, PR 00920.

Included as defendants are Corporation XYZ and Insurance Company ABC, which are fictitious
names to refer to any legal entity or individual that is or may be liable to the Plaintiffs for their
damages.

FACTS

- 4. Since 1983, Mrs. Nahir Girón Morel and her husband, Mr. Manuel Jusino Palermo, received the medical and dental coverage services of Triple S as part of the benefits offered by DuPONT Agricultural Caribe Industries, Inc. (who also conducts business under the name Dupont Connection and Dupont Agricultural and AON Hewitt, LLC), hereinafter, "Dupont," to its employees, retirees and their direct relatives.
- 5. That is because Mr. Manuel Jusino Palermo has been a retiree of this company since 1992.
- 6. The plaintiffs never received advance notice of any changes or potential changes in medical coverage, invoices pertaining to costs of medical coverage, or notification whatsoever. It was not until the month of October 2014 that a notification was received by regular mail from DuPont's Human Resources Department in which, in short, they informed that effective January 1, 2015, the medical coverage for retired employees would be varied or expenses reimbursed.
- 7. After countless efforts, all unsuccessful, in November 2015, Mr. Jusino Palermo was able to contact personnel from One Exchange, an affiliate of the defendant herein and AON Hewitt, LLC, that

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- renders services to retirees in order to clarify doubts pertaining to changes in their medical and dental coverage. Specifically, they informed that his wife's medical and dental coverage would not undergo changes and would continue in effect for January 1, 2015.
- 8. Pursuant to the information provided by One Exchange, by January 1, 2015, Mr. Manuel Jusino would receive his Medicare coverage because he would be of the required age, and Mrs. Nahir Girón would continue to receive her Medical Plan and Dental Plan coverage without any changes, so she was informed that she did not have to take any steps to that effect.
- 9. In 2014, Mrs. Girón Morel's medical and dental coverage was in effect and did not undergo interruptions. However, in the month of February 2015, she realized her medical coverage had been cancelled as of January 1, 2015. This occurred without prior notice from the defendants herein. Given this surprise, Mr. Jusino Palermo and Mrs. Girón Morel took all the steps within their reach to get to know the reasons why the medical and dental coverage had been cancelled and were able to obtain the services again.
- 10. It was not until August 2015 that Mrs. Girón Morel received her new Medical Plan card. After making some inquiries, the plaintiffs learned that only the Medical Plan had been activated on August 13, 2015, eight (8) months after the effective date, as informed by the defendants. As of that date, there still wasn't any dental plan coverage.
- 11. The defendants sent the plaintiffs herein respective invoices for alleged Medical and Dental Plan services, when Mrs. Girón Morel had not received the adequate coverages. Therefore, the plaintiffs objected to these invoices through an administrative appeal process.
- 12. After several administrative efforts and an anguishing appeal process, the plaintiffs continued to pay, in advance, from the date when the medical coverages were activated for Mrs. Girón Morel on August 13, 2015, through to July 2016. However, the defendants maliciously, arbitrarily, capriciously, and without prior notice, ordered the services pertaining to Mrs. Girón Morel's medical and dental coverage to be deactivated.
- 13. Mrs. Girón Morel received the bitter news that she could not use her Medical Plan because it had been deactivated and was compelled to pay cash for the medical services received. She was not

informed of this by the defendants herein, but by the staff at Dr. Jaime Villa Colón's medical office.

- 14. That on July 13, 2016, after Mrs. Girón Morel visited her dermatologist, Dr. Jaime Villa Colón, the plaintiffs learned that the defendants had ordered Mrs. Girón Morel's Dental and Medical Plan or coverage to be deactivated, retroactively to May 1, 2016.
- 15. Coincidentally, on July 10, 2016, the plaintiffs received an *adjusted invoice* in the amount of \$121.48, which was paid in full. Despite this, the Medical and Dental Plan remained inactive and the plaintiffs resumed efforts to inquire into the reasons why this problem continued.
- 16. Since the month of August 2016, until the month of December 2016, invoices for the monthly amounts of \$16.00 were received and were all paid in full and on time. For reasons unknown by the plaintiffs, on December 27, 2016, a second invoice was received, this time in the amount of \$960.52, and, to their surprise, with a warning that the payment had to be received in full on or before January 1, 2017. Given this discrepancy in invoices, the plaintiffs contacted the defendants, but were unsuccessful with the remedies, and the personnel did not know why they were being billed these amounts.
- 17. On January 11, 2017, a second invoice was received for the same amount of \$960.52, this time with a warning of immediate and retroactive cancellation: "Because your previous balance wasn't received by the statement date on thi [sic] bill, your minimum payment of \$884.52 must be received by 02/27/2017. Otherwise, your coverage will be cancelled effective 01/31/2016." Given this situation, the plaintiffs contacted the defendants again, and the latter told them to continue paying their monthly bill, \$76.00, until they found out why they were being billed these amounts. They also explained that the invoices are sent automatically.
- 18. After several efforts and conversations with Dupont Connection's staff, the matter was resolved without prior notice. Mrs. Girón Morel was informed by a pharmacy that her Plan was active.
- 19. Surprisingly, on September 14, 2018, notified by regular mail on September 17, 2018, Triple S-Salud informed Mrs. Girón Morel that her coverage would be cancelled effective January 24, 2017.

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Therefore, any and all medical services received from that date through to the month of September of the current year would have to be paid by the plaintiffs. This, without offering any reason that justifies this.

20. Despite the monthly payments and efforts on the plaintiffs' part to continue with their Medical and Dental Plan coverage, the defendants arbitrarily deactivated, without any notice whatsoever, the plaintiff's medical coverage benefits. As a result, to this day, Mrs. Nahir Girón does not have medical or dental coverage to receive healthcare treatment and care.

21. As a result of this situation and these arbitrary, capricious, culpable and negligent acts on the part of Dupont, all of its offices and/or affiliates, and by Triple S-Salud, Mrs. Girón Morel and Mr. Jusino Palermo have suffered financial and emotional damages.

a. For financial damages: \$40,000.00.

b. For mental anguish and emotional damages: \$20,000.00.

c. For extrajudicial efforts and attorney's fees: \$5,000.00.

WHEREFORE, we very respectfully pray that this Honorable Court, in due course, and after following all pertinent procedures, GRANT this complaint and consequently order the defendants to pay to the plaintiffs the sums claimed; the litigation costs and expenses; and a sum no less than \$5,000.00 for attorney's fees.

In Ponce, Puerto Rico, on November 12, 2018.

CERTIFICATION OF TRANSLATION

I, Carol G. Terry, a US-Court-Certified-Interpreter, Certificate No. 03-001, and translator with an MA in Translation from the University of Puerto Rico, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and abilities, the foregoing FIVE (5) PAGES are a true and correct translation of the original document in Spanish.

Carol G. Terry

S/ MRS. NAOMI JUSINO GIRÓN, ESQ. RUA 19135

Urb. Constancia, #2734 Luis A. Ferré Blvd. Ponce, PR 00717-0300 Tel. (787) 607-9588 / (787) 259-3288 Fax: (787) 259-0159

lcda.jusinogiron@gmail.com

Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico Tribunal de Primera Instancia Sala SUPERIOR de PONCE

MANUEL JUSINO PALERMO Y OTROS	CASO NÚM:	PO2018CV01730
Nombre de la(s) Parte(s) Dernandantes(s)	a Landar	602
VS.	SALÓN NÚM:	00-
DUPONT AGRICULTURAL CARIBE INDUSTRIES, INC. Y OTROS	ACCIÓN CIVIL DE	DAÑOS (Materia o Asunto)
Nombre de la(s) Parte(s) Demandada(s)		(Materia o Fishino)
EMPLA	ZAMIENTO	
ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA, SS	3411 561	
EL PRESIDENTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS	Maria Contraction	, Y
EL ESTADO LIBRE ASOCIADO DE PUERTO RICO	Little A. C.	N and the Control
A: <u>DUPONT AGRICULTURAL CARIBE INDUSTRIE</u>	ES, INC.	
	demandada que se emplaza	
361 SAN FRANCISCO STREET, SAN JUAN, PUE	RTO RICO, 00901	
	e demandada que se emplaza	To a de los
POR LA PRESENTE se le emplaza para que presente al días de haber sido diligenciado este	tribunal su alegación responsiva	a dentro de los
Usted deberá presentar su alegación responsiva a través o	empiazamiento, excluyendose e	o v Administración de Casos
(SUMAC), al cual puede acceder utilizando la siguiente	dirección electrónica: https://un	red.ramajudicial.pr/sumac/,
salvo que se represente por derecho pronio, en cuvo caso	deberá presentar su alegación r	esponsiva en la secretaria de
tribunal. Si usted deia de presentar su alegación responsi	va dentro del referido termino, e	el tribunal poura dictal
sentencia en rebeldía en su contra y conceder el remedio	solicitado en la demanda, o cua	lquier otro, si el tribunal, en
ejercicio de su sana discreción, lo entiende procedente.		
NAOMIT	USINO GIRON	
Nombre del (de la) abogado(a) de la parte den	nandante, o de la parte, si no tiene represen	tación legal
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	léfono; número de fax	
LCDA.JUSINOG	GIRON@GMAIL.COM	
	eo electrónico	
Expedido bajo mi firma y sello del Tribunal, el 19	de <u>Nowembr</u> LUZ MAYRA CARABALLO	de <u>2018</u> .
	LUZ MAYRA CARABALLO	GARCIA
	SECRETARIA REGION	AL
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	Nombre del (de la) Secretar	io(a) Regional
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Por:	Coolettiilly Mills Mail	1 7
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OAT 1721 Emplazamiento (SUMAC) (Rev. Mayo 2018) Reglas de Procedimiento Civil de 2009, según empendadas

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-	CASO NÚM:		
Yo,	CERTIFICADO DE DILIGENCIAMIENTO POR EL (LA) ALGUACIL		
	Alguacil del Tribunal de Primera Instancia de Puerto Rico Sala de		
CERT	TIFICO que el diligenciamiento del emplazamiento y de la demanda del caso de referencia fue realizado por mí, de		
]	Accesible en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física:		
	Dejando copia de los documentos a un(a) agente autorizado(a) por la parte demandada o designada por ley para recibir emplazamientos en la siguiente dirección física:		
	No se pudo diligenciar el emplazamiento personalmente debido a que:		
în	, Puerto Rico, el de de		
	Nombre del (de la) Alguacil Regional Nombre del (de la) Alguacil de Primera Instancia y Número de Placa		
	Firma del (de la) Alguacil de Primera Instancia		
	DILIGENCIAMIENTO DEL EMPLAZAMIENTO POR PERSONA PARTICULAR		
1 3°	Mediante entrega personal a la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mediante en la inmediata presencia de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mena de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento Civil de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento Civil de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento del emplazamiento y de la demanda del caso de referencia fue realizado por mí, Dupoud figural de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mena de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento Civil de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento Civil de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento del emplazamiento y de la demanda del caso de referencia fue realizado por mí, Dupoud figural de la parte demandada en la siguiente dirección física: Mena de Rico, y certifico que el diligenciamiento Civil de Rico, y certifico que el dilige		
]	Dejando copia de los documentos a un(a) agente autorizado(a) por la parte demandada o designada por ley para para recibir emplazamientos en la siguiente dirección física:		
]	No se pudo diligenciar el emplazamiento personalmente debido a que:		
•	COSTOS DEL DILIGENCIAMIENTO		
	\$		
	DECLARACIÓN DEL(DE LA) EMPLAZADOR(A)		
Here dil	bajo pena de perjurio, conforme a las leyes del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico, que la información provista igenciamiento del emplazamiento es verdadera y correcta. Y PARA QUE ASÍ CONSTE, suscribo la presente en de 10 de 1		
	y suscrito(a) ante mi por, reunstancias personales anteriormente mencionadas, a quien doy fe de conocer		